Message Text

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AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:EAGR, OTRA, PINT

SUBJECT: DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR KARIM, 11:00 A.M. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

SUMMARY: ON NOVEMBER 14 AFGHAN AMBASSADOR KARIM HAD HOURLONG MEETING WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS. SUBJECTS DISCUSSED INCLUDED GOA PL-480 WHEAT REQUEST, DAOUD'S VISIT, NEW APPOINTMENTS TO CENTRAL COUNCIL OF PARTY AND SITUATION IN MID-EAST AND PAKISTAN.

1. AMBASSADOR KARIM AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS HAD HOUR-LONG MEETING NOVEMBER 14. HORNBLOW (NEA/PAB) ALSO PRESENT. MEETING WAS REQUESTED BY KARIM TO DISCUSS DELAY IN RESPONDING TO GOA REQUEST FOR PL-480 WHEAT.

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2. (PL-480) KARIM NOTED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED WHEAT REQUEST WITH SECRETARY VANCE, UNDER SECRETARY HABIB AND AID ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR WHEELER AND HAD BEEN ASSURED THERE WERE NO PROBLEMS AND NECESSARY DOCUMENTS WOULD BE FORWARDED TO KABUL. THE AMBASSADOR SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD COUNTED ON THESE ASSURANCES AND MADE PLANS ACCORDINGLY. KARIM ADDED THAT AFGHANISTAN BADLY NEEDS THE WHEAT AND A POSITIVE

USG RESPONSE WOULD BE LOOKED UPON AS A FRIENDLY GESTURE OF THE NEW CARTER ADMINISTRATION.

DUBS IN RESPONSE NOTED THAT CONGRESS HAD RECENTLY PASSED LEGISLATION AFFECTING PL 480 SALES. DUBS
DESCRIBED CONTENT OF BELLMON AMENDMENT AND SECTION 112
AMENDMENT TO PL 480 LEGISLATION. DUBS SAID
THAT PL-480 PROGRAMS FOR AFGHANISTAN AND MANY OTHER
COUNTRIES HAD BEEN DELAYED WHILE DEPARTMENT STUDIED BEST
WAY TO IMPLEMENT THIS LEGISLATION. DUBS EMPHASIZED THAT
ALL PENDING PL-480 PROGRAMS BEING DELAYED AND AFGHANISTAN
WAS NOT BEING SINGLED OUT. DUBS SAID THAT HE APPRECIATED
URGENCY OF SITUATION AND WOULD TELEPHONE AMBASSADOR BY END
OF WEEK AND ADVISE HIM OF STATUS OF REQUEST.

3. (DAOUD VISIT) AMBASSADOR KARIM SAID INVITATION HAD BEEN EXTENDED BY SECRETARY VANCE DURING MEETING WITH WAHEED ABDULLAH AND HAD BEEN ACCEPTED BY PRESIDENT DAOUD. KARIM SAID HE BELIEVED DATES SHOULD BE SET AND ANNOUNCEMENT MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE A LOT OF PREPARATIONS MADE FOR THE VISIT. DUBS SAID PRESIDENT DAOUD'S PREFERRED DATES FOR VISIT OF MAY 15-JUNE 15 HAD BEEN COMMUNICATED TO WHITE HOUSE. DUBS ADDED THAT WHITE HOUSE PRACTICE WAS TO HOLD UP ON ANNOUNCING VISITS UNTIL ALL DETAILS AGREED ON. DUBS SAID VISITS USUALLY NOT ANNOUNCED MUCH IN ADVANCE AND HE WOULD CERTAINLY INFORM CONFIDENTIAL.

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AMBASSADOR WHEN WE HAD ANY MORE INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT.

- 4. (DAOUD INVITATION TO CARTER) AMBASSADOR KARIM SAID HE REALIZED PRESIDENT CARTER HAD TO POSTPONE TRIP AND WONDERED IF KABUL STOPOVER WOULD BE POSSIBLE IF TRIP RESCHEDULED. DUBS REPLIED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER APPRECIATED PRESIDENT DAOUD'S KIND INVITATION BUT THAT BECAUSE OF TIME PRESSURES KABUL STOPOVER NOT LIKELY IF TRIP RESCHEDULED.
- 5. (CENTRAL COUNCIL OF PNR) DUBS SAID HE HAD HEARD SOME APPOINTMENTS HAD BEEN MADE TO CENTRAL COUNCIL OF PARTY. KARIM CONFIRMED THAT FOUR INDIVIDUALS NAMED. HE SAID ABDUL MAJID WAS AT TOP OF LIST. AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT VICE PRESIDENT(S) WOULD BE CHOSEN FROM CENTRAL COUNCIL AND SAID MAJID WOULD BE A VP FOR SURE. HE SAID MAJID WAS A VERY DECENT WELL RESPECTED PERSON BUT NOT IN GOOD HEALTH AND WOULD NOT BE VERY ACTIVE.

KARIM SAID GENERAL RASSULI WAS SECOND ON LIST AND WAS A CLOSE FRIEND. HE DESCRIBED RASSULI AS A DECENT MAN VERY

LOYAL TO DAOUD. SINCE RASSULI IN MILITARY KARIM DID NOT THINK HE COULD BE APPOINTED AS VP.

KARIM SAID FINANCE MINISTER ABDULILAH WAS THIRD ON LIST AND A CANDIDATE FOR VP. HE DESCRIBED ABDULILAH AS VERY LOYAL, YOUNG AND AMBITIOUS.

KARIM ADMITTED THAT FRONTIER MINISTER KAYUM'S APPOINTMENT HAD BEEN A SURPRISE. KARIM HAD THOUGHT AGRICULTURE MINISTER WASSIFI WOULD BE APPOINTED. KARIM SPECULATED THAT KAYUM AS A PRO-PUSHTO HAD BEEN ADDED TO BALANCE OUT MAJID WHO REPRESENTS THE PERSIAN-SPEAKING ELEMENTS OF THE POPULATION

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KARIM SAID THE CENTRAL COUNCIL WOULD HAVE A KEY ROLE IN CHOOSING REPRESENTATIVES TO SIT IN NEW LEGISLATURE BUT WOULD NOT HAVE ANY ROLE IN DECISION-MAKING. PRESIDENT DAOUD WOULD CONTINUE TO MAKE KEY DECISIONS.

IN RESPONSE TO DUBS' QUESTION KARIM SPECULATED THERE WERE PROBABLY SOME CABINET MINISTERS WHO WERE DISAPPOINTED AT NOT BEING NAMED TO COUNCIL. KARIM SAID FOREIGN MINISTER ABDULLAH HAD WANTED SUCH AN APPOINTMENT. (COMMENT: KARIM APPARENTLY NOT YET AWARE OF REPORTED CABINET RESIGNATIONS.)

- 6. (MIDDLE EAST) IN RESPONSE TO KARIM'S QUESTIONS DUBS SAID US GRATIFIED BY RECENT STATEMENTS BY BEGIN AND SADAT AND WE WELCOME ANYTHING WHICH IMPROVES THE ATMOSPHERE. DUBS SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE TWO SIDES NOT ALLOW PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS TO PREVENT A GENEVA MEETING. KARIM CONCURRED NOTING THAT SADAT WAS A VERY PRACTICAL AND REALISTIC MAN WHO WAS CONCERNED BY THE EGYPTIAN ECONOMY.
- 7. (PAKISTAN) KARIM SAID GOA PLEASED WITH GENERAL ZIA AND THAT HIS RECENT VISIT TO KABUL HAD BEEN A NICE GESTURE. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT DURING THIS VISIT DAOUD HAD ASSURED ZIA THAT AFGHANISTAN HAD NO DESIRE ANNEX PORTIONS OF PAKISTAN AND IF PATHANS AND BALUCHIS ARE HAPPY WITH CONSTITUTION GOA ALSO HAPPY. KARIM SAID GOA WANTED A STRONG AND STABLE PAKISTAN AND BELIEVED IRAN AND POSSIBLY INDIA ALSO SHARED THIS VIEW.

DUBS SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO HEAR OF GOOD PAK/AFGHAN RELATIONS AND IT IMPORTANT AT THIS STAGE NOT TO SLIP BACKWARD. DUBS SAID US CONTINUES TO WANT GOOD, FRIENDLY AND PRODUCTIVE RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN. THE US IS NOW TRYING TO CONVINCE THE PAKS THAT A REPROCESSING FACILITY NOT A CONFIDENTIAL.

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GOOD THING FOR AREA. THE US WANTS TO BE HELPFUL IN TRANSFERRING NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY BUT IT IS NOT WISE OR EVEN ECONOMIC TO GO INTO REPROCESSING NOW. DUBS SAID THAT US ALSO INTERESTED IN THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, COHESION AND STABILITY OF PAKISTAN.

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TAGS: EAGR, OTRA, PINT, US, AF, XF, (DUBS, ADOLPH), (KARIM, ABDUL WAHEED)

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